

scope of the casualty list is particularly overwhelming when considering each individual that was taken from us. Each had a name, a face, a family, a personality, a legacy that they have left behind.

Susan Conlon said goodbye to her 6-year-old daughter, Kimberly, before going to work that day in the World Trade Center, in an office she had occupied for less than 3 months. Robert Curatolo was a newlywed who charged into danger as one of all too many firemen that never returned that day. Vassill Haramis was a hero of the 1993 WTC bombing, an engineer who loved working there as he had since the 1970's, not long after coming to this country.

These stories, times a thousand and more, can only begin to trace the outline of the victims of the 9-11 attacks. I offer them as examples from my own district of heartbreaking losses.

I believe what we are proposing today will be an eloquent testament to the memory of the victims. By acting today, while the memory of that terrible day has not yet faded, we can be sure future generations will have a better understanding of the victims and heroes of September 11th, and their legacies will never be forgotten.

NEW YORK JOINT SESSION OF
CONGRESS, SEPTEMBER 6, 2002

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago, America watched with horror as the tragic events of September 11 unfolded here in New York City and in our Nation's capital. On that morning, already aghast at the attack on the Twin Towers, I looked out the window of my Capitol Hill Office and gasped in horror as I watched the black smoke billow out of the Pentagon and drift across the clear blue sky. Still stunned, I was quickly shuffled out of my office to safety.

Today, as I reflect on the profound loss that our nation faced in midst of these horrific attacks, I am also heartened by the selfless acts of valor, community spirit, and national unity that have followed this tragedy. Despite the stresses that our nation has experienced, the ties that bind our diverse country together are stronger than ever.

Immediately following, the terrorist attacks on America, President Bush called on all of us to volunteer to bring our country together and reestablish those local ties that often times are neglected. Americans responded. The resurgence of commitment to community can be found in our homes, our houses of worship, our schools, and our workplaces. From New York City to San Diego, citizens responded with soup kitchens, mentoring programs and charitable donations of goods and time. And the proud men and women of the U.S. military responded, allowing our country to take an aggressive lead in the War on Terrorism.

I have heard many stories of outstanding individuals who have gone above and beyond this call to aid those in their community through extraordinary service and exemplary acts. While we reflect on the American spirit, it is also important to highlight the measures

we have taken to prevent future attacks of this magnitude.

The attacks on our Nation were motivated by intolerant and ignorant individuals seeking to forever change our way of life and destroy this great Nation. Much like Washington, Adams and Jefferson, we must seek to ensure that this country remains an example of democracy and freedom—we must be the Patriots of today.

Since September 11, 2001, all levels and branches of government have cooperated to strengthen aviation and border security, stockpile more medicines to defend against bio-terrorism, improve information sharing among our intelligence agencies and deploy more resources and personnel to protect our critical infrastructure.

At the same time, the changing nature of threats to our nation requires a new and reformed government structure to protect against enemies who can strike at any time with any number of weapons. As I write this column, no single government agency has homeland security as its primary mission. In fact, responsibilities for homeland security are dispersed among more than one hundred different government organizations. America needs a unified homeland security structure that will improve protection against today's threats and be flexible enough to help meet the unknown threats of the future.

President Bush has proposed the most significant transformation of the U.S. government in over a half-century by consolidating the current confusing patchwork of government activities into a single department called the Department of Homeland Security. Changing threats require a new government structure to meet these threats. The Department of Homeland Security will have in one place all the resources needed to do what it takes to protect our country. The reorganization of America's homeland security infrastructure is crucial to overcoming the enormous threat we face today.

The shocking and tragic events of September 11 reminded us of the frailty of life, but today's special session demonstrates our resilience and strength in the face of adversity. Thousands went to work on September 11 thinking about their jobs, their families, their friends—most likely not contemplating their own mortality. Yet in an instant, death and injury met them face to face. We must never forget those who perished, and we honor them again today. We owe it to their memory to ensure that we never face such a loss again. Regrouping as individuals and as a nation, we must continue rebuilding, and working to defeat the terrorists by growing even stronger as a nation.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF ELECTRICIANS
MATE (SUBMARINES) JOSEPH
AIMON MANGIN, U.S. NAVY

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Electricians Mate (Submarines) Joseph Aimon Mangin, United States Navy. Chief Petty Officer Mangin will retire on Monday, 30 September

2002 after 23 years of faithful service to our Nation.

Chief Mangin enlisted in the United States Army in September 1978. Following Army Basic Training and Army Cooking School at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, he reported to his first assignment as part of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 70th Armor in Wiesbaden, Germany in January 1979. During his European tour he participated in several field exercises including Return of Forces to Germany (REFORGER) and exercises at the Fulda Gap.

In October 1981 Chief Mangin transferred to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry (Golden Dragons) of the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. While attached to the Golden Dragons he again participated in many field exercises including Team Spirit in Korea and jungle operations in the Republic of the Philippines. During his Hawaii tour Chief Mangin was named the battalion, brigade, division, and US Army Western Command Cook of the Year for 1982. In March 1984 Chief Mangin left the Army and spent nine months with the California National Guard.

In December 1984, feeling again the call to serve he joined the United States Navy. He attended Navy Recruit Training, Basic Electricity and Electronics School and Electricians' Mate 'A' School at Great Lakes, Illinois, graduating number one in his 'A' school class. Chief Mangin then completed Nuclear Power School in Orlando, Florida, and in May of 1986 was assigned for training to Nuclear Power Training Unit Idaho Falls, Idaho, where he was the first student in his class to graduate.

In February 1987 Chief Mangin joined the crew of USS *Olympia* (SSN 717) in Pearl Harbor. Serving as *Olympia's* Command Career Counselor, his efforts helped the ship earn the Commander Pacific Submarine Force Silver Anchor award for retention excellence. During his time on *Olympia*, the ship completed three Western Pacific deployments and two northern deployments. After graduating first in his class at Radiological Controls Maintenance School, Chief Mangin completed a three-year tour assigned to SUBASE Pearl Harbor, qualifying as Radiological Controls Shift Supervisor and serving as Leading Petty Officer.

Chief Mangin then received orders to the USS *Oklahoma City* (SSN 723) in Norfolk, Virginia. Serving as Leading Petty Officer of Electrical Division, he was named *Oklahoma City's* Sailor of the Year for 1995. During this tour, the ship completed a Mediterranean deployment. In 1996, following his selection as a Chief Petty Officer, Chief Mangin reported to USS *Norfolk* (SSN 714) as Electrical Division Leading Chief Petty Officer. In 1998, Chief Mangin relieved as the Navy's Submarine Pay (SUBPAY) Monitor, working on the staff of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations at the Navy Annex in Washington DC. In this position, he oversaw all aspects of the \$45M SUBPAY budget. His thorough analysis built the compelling business case that resulted in targeted increases to the SUBPAY program, the first increases in fifteen years.

Chief Mangin's contributions have had a direct and lasting impact on the overall readiness and effectiveness of Naval Submarine Force personnel. He is an individual of uncommon character and his professionalism will be sincerely missed. I am proud, Mr. Speaker, to thank him for his honorable service in the